GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:46
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2016
Pre-School Education
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

a) whether it is a fact that a large number of children are not attending pre-schools in the country and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
b) whether the Government proposes to regulate pre-school education in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
c) whether some State Governments propose to frame their own laws for pre-school regulation due to the lack of central regulation and if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a): Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) is one of the six free services provided through Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) located across the country under the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) Scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The ICDS is a universal self-selecting Scheme available to all the beneficiaries who enroll at the AWCs. At present, there are 3.53 crore children in the age group 3-6 years who are beneficiaries of pre-school education in Anganwadi Centres under ICDS.
(b) & (c): National ECCE Policy lays down a Regulatory Framework for ECCE to ensure basic quality standards to be implemented in a phased manner moving progressively from registration to accreditation and ultimately to regulation of ECCE services in States/UTs.
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